
SENATE BILL No. 547

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 9-24.

Synopsis: Learner's permits and probationary drivers. Provides that the relative, stepparent, or guardian who must occupy the seat beside the driver's seat while a learner's permit holder who is less than 18 years of age participates in practice driving must be at least 18 years of age. Provides that the individual who must be present in the front seat while the holder of a probationary license operates a motor vehicle during the 90 days after the issuance of the probationary license must be: (1) a guardian, stepparent, or relative of the license holder; and (2) at least 18 years of age.

Effective: July 1, 2005.

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January 20, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Commerce and Transportation.

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First Regular Session 114th General Assembly (2005)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2004 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 547

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning motor vehicles.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 9-24-7-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 4. A learner's permit authorizes the
3 permit holder to operate a motor vehicle, except a motorcycle, upon a
4 public highway under the following conditions:

5 (1) While the holder is participating in practice driving in an
6 approved driver education course and is accompanied by a
7 certified driver education instructor in the front seat of an
8 automobile equipped with dual controls.

9 (2) If the learner's permit has been validated and the holder is less
10 than eighteen (18) years of age, the holder may participate in
11 practice driving if the seat beside the holder is occupied by a
12 guardian, stepparent, or relative of the holder who:

13 (A) holds a valid ~~operator's, chauffeur's, or public passenger~~
14 ~~chauffeur's~~ **driver's** license; and

15 (B) **is at least eighteen (18) years of age.**

16 (3) If the learner's permit has been validated and the holder is at
17 least eighteen (18) years of age, the holder may participate in

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practice driving if accompanied in the vehicle by an individual who holds a valid operator's, chauffeur's, or public passenger chauffeur's license.

(4) While:

(A) the holder is enrolled in an approved driver education course;

(B) the holder is participating in practice driving after having commenced an approved driver education course; and

(C) the seat beside the holder is occupied by a parent, stepparent, or guardian of the holder who holds a valid operator's, chauffeur's, or public passenger chauffeur's license.

SECTION 2. IC 9-24-11-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) A license issued to an individual less than eighteen (18) years of age is a probationary license.

(b) An individual holds a probationary license subject to the following conditions:

(1) Except as provided in IC 31-37-3, the individual may not operate a motor vehicle during the curfew hours specified in IC 31-37-3-2.

(2) During the ninety (90) days following the issuance of the probationary license, the individual may not operate a motor vehicle in which there are passengers unless ~~another individual~~ **a guardian, stepparent, or relative of the individual** who:

(A) is at least ~~twenty-one (21)~~ **eighteen (18)** years of age; and

(B) holds a valid ~~operator's~~ **driver's** license issued under this article;

is present in the front seat of the motor vehicle.

(3) The individual may operate a motor vehicle only if the individual and each occupant of the motor vehicle has a safety belt properly fastened about the occupant's body at all times when the motor vehicle is in motion.

(c) An individual who holds a probationary license issued under this section may receive an operator's license, a chauffeur's license, a public passenger chauffeur's license, or a commercial driver's license when the individual is at least eighteen (18) years of age.

(d) A probationary license issued under this section:

(1) is valid for not more than four (4) years from the date the license is issued; and

(2) may not be renewed.

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